

In The Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~[[C]]~~cover for an energy guide chain, where the cover comprises:~~(1)~~ has a first end region,~~(2)~~ and a second end region, ~~[[3]]~~ and ~~is designed with~~ at least one elastic section ~~[[4]]~~ provided between the first end region ~~(2)~~ and wherein the second end region ~~[[3]]~~ is, designed in such a way that the following relationship applies to it:

$$\Delta L/S < 1$$

where ΔL is the length change of the cover with a length L_0 according to Hook's law, and S is the actual length change of the cover.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 1, characterized in that ~~the~~ at least one section ~~[[4]]~~ has a wavy shape.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 2, characterized in that ~~the~~ at least section ~~[[4]]~~ has waves of different heights ~~[[H]]~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 2 ~~or 3~~, characterized in that ~~the~~ at least one section ~~[[4]]~~ has waves of different periods.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 2,~~3 or 4~~, characterized in that ~~the~~ flanks ~~[[6]]~~ of the waves of the at least one section ~~[[4]]~~ have different slopes.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~one of C~~claim~~[[s]]~~ 2 ~~to 5~~, characterized in that the wave troughs ~~[[8]]~~ and the wave crests ~~[[7]]~~ of the waves of ~~the~~ at least one section ~~[[4]]~~ have different curvatures.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~one of C~~claim~~[[s]]~~ 2 ~~to 6~~, characterized in that the wave crests ~~[[7]]~~ and/or wave troughs ~~[[8]]~~ of the waves have different cross-sections than the flanks ~~[[7]]~~ of the waves.

Applicant: Eckl et al.

Application No.:

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 7, characterized in that the wave crests ~~[[7]]~~ and/or wave troughs ~~[[8]]~~ of the waves have a lower thickness than the flanks ~~[[6]]~~.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~one of C~~claim~~[[s]]~~ 2 ~~to 8~~, characterized in that the wavy section ~~[[4]]~~ is provided with a microstructure, at least partly.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~one of C~~claim~~[[s]]~~ 2 ~~to 9~~, characterized in that ~~the~~ at least one section ~~[[4]]~~ has at least two regions where the regions have a different structure.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~one of C~~claim~~[[s]]~~ 1 ~~to 10~~, characterized by at least two cover parts ~~(11, 12)~~, which partially overlap, where the cover parts ~~(11, 12)~~ are linked through at least one plate ~~[[13]]~~ running essentially transversely to the longitudinal direction of cover ~~[[4]]~~.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 11, characterized in that ~~the~~ at least one plate ~~[[13]]~~ is designed to have spring elasticity.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 11 ~~or 12~~, characterized by the fact that ~~the~~ at least one plate ~~[[13]]~~ is designed to have a wavy shape, at least partly.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~one of C~~claim~~[[s]]~~ 1 ~~to 13~~, characterized in that the first and/or second end region ~~(2, 3)~~ is/are designed so that ~~this is/these are~~ each is suitable for positive and/or nonpositive locking to a transverse link ~~[[14]]~~ of a chain link.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~one of C~~claim~~[[s]]~~ 1 ~~to 13~~, characterized in that the first and/or the second end region ~~(2, 3)~~ is/are designed as a transverse link/transverse links.

16. (Currently Amended) The $[[C]]$ cover according to ~~one of~~ $[[C]]$ claim $[[s]]$ 1 to 15, characterized in that these have at least two sections $[(4)]$ and at least one fastening region formed between the two sections $[(4)]$, intended for linking to a chain link.

17. (Currently Amended) The $[[C]]$ cover according to ~~one of~~ $[[C]]$ claim $[[s]]$ 1 to 16, characterized in that it is made of a plastic, at least partly.

18. (Currently Amended) The $[[C]]$ cover according to $[[C]]$ claim 17, characterized in that at least one section $[(4)]$ is made of at least two plastics with different elasticities.

19. (Currently Amended) A $[[C]]$ chain link of an energy guide chain comprising:

~~with~~ two mounting links $[(18)]$;

~~with~~ at least one transverse link $[(14)]$ joining the mounting links $[(18)]$;

and at least one cover $[(1)]$, where the cover $[(1)]$ has a first end region $[(2)]$ and a

second end region $[(3)]$ and has at least one elastic section $[(4)]$ provided

between the first end region $[(2)]$ and the second end region $[(3)]$, designed in

such a way that the following relationship applies to it:

$$\Delta L/S < 1$$

where ΔL is the length change of the cover with a length L_0 according to

Hooke's law, and S is the actual length change of the cover.

20. (Currently Amended) The $[[C]]$ chain link according to $[[C]]$ claim 19, characterized in that the cover $[(4)]$ is specifically separably joined to at least one transverse link $[(14)]$.

21. (Currently Amended) The $[[C]]$ chain link according to $[[C]]$ claim 20, characterized in that at least one transverse link $[(14)]$ is joined pivotably to at least one mounting link $[(18)]$.

22. (Currently Amended) The $[[C]]$ chain link according to $[[C]]$ claim 19, 20 or 21, characterized in that it has at least one fastening element ~~(23)~~, which is joined to a cover (4).

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~chain link according to ~~one of Cclaim[[s]] 19 to 21,~~
characterized by a cover (4) ~~according to one or several of Claims 2 to 18.~~

24. (Currently Amended) An ~~[[E]]~~energy guide chain with a multiplicity of chain links
[[21]], linked together with joints, where at least some chain links ~~[[14]]~~ have at least one
cover ~~[[1]]~~, characterized in that the cover ~~[[1]]~~ has a first end region ~~[[2]]~~ and a second end
region ~~[[3]]~~ and at least one elastic section ~~[[4]]~~ provided between the first end region ~~[[2]]~~
and second end region ~~[[3]]~~, designed in such a way that the following relationship applies to
it:

$$\Delta L/S < 1$$

where ΔL is the length change of the cover with a length L_0 according to Hook's law,
and S is the actual length change of the cover.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[E]]~~energy guide chain according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 24,
characterized in that at least one cover ~~[[4]]~~ extends over at least two chain links ~~[[21]]~~.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[E]]~~energy guide chain according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 24 ~~or 25,~~
characterized in that a first end region ~~[[2]]~~ and/or a second end region ~~[[3]]~~ is/are connected
especially separably with a transverse link ~~[[14]]~~.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[E]]~~energy guide chain according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 24, ~~25 or~~
26, characterized in that at least some chain links ~~[[21]]~~ have fastening elements ~~[[23]]~~ which
are intended for fastening at least one cover ~~[[4]]~~.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[E]]~~energy guide chain according to ~~one of Cclaim[[s]] 24~~
~~to 27,~~ characterized in that at least one cover ~~[[4]]~~ is joined to two neighboring chain links
~~[[21]]~~.

Applicant: Eckl et al.

Application No.:

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[E]]~~energy guide chain according to ~~one of the Claims of~~
~~Claim[[s]] 24 to 28~~, where a cover ~~[[4]]~~ is designed ~~according to one or several of Claims 2 to~~
~~18~~.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[E]]~~energy guide chain according to ~~one of the Claims of~~
~~Claim[[s]] 24 to 29~~, characterized in that this is formed at least partly of chain links ~~(14)~~
~~according to one of Claims 19 to 23~~.